lowest functionaries and is complied with by all concerned. The NCW has also instituted a series of interactive meetings with Public Sector Undertakings/Banks/Universities/Educational Institutions/Hotels/Media etc. to assess the extent of implementation of the guidelines.

* A Central Committee headed by Secretary, Department of Women and Child Development has been constituted in the Department of Women and Child Development to ensure that the complaints committees are constituted and the guidelines are implemented by all concerned.

* Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules have been amended to include sexual harassment as a prohibited conduct.

* Amendments have been made to the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 so that sexual harassment of women at work place in the private sector could constitute an offence for which a workman is liable for disciplinary action.

Modernization of police forces

846. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to bring three-tier Central funding scheme for the States to facilitate the modernization of their police forces and brief up their network for more effective anti-terrorist and special operations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Government have recentely revised the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme). The revised scheme has grouped the State into 3 categories. A, B1 and B2-mainly on the basis of level of insurgency/militancy/cross border terrorism being faced by the State. Central funding under the revised Scheme will be 100%, 75% and 60% to these three categories of States respectively from 2003-04. The Central funding will be in the form of grant-in-aid. As a

result, the annual Central allocation has been raised from Rs. 1000 crore to Rs. 1400 crore per annum. The three groups of States are as under:-

Category A: Jammu & Kashmir, Assam, Manipur and Tripura.

Category B1 Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand.

Category B2: Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Goa, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

The police modernization related items which were admissible under the Scheme for Reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure (SRE) operated by the Internal Security Division of Ministry of Home Affairs have been merged with the MPF Scheme. Central funding for which will be 100% in respect of the Left-wing Extremist (LWE) affected districts of the concerned States, irrespective of whether the States fall in category A, B1 or B2 within the overall control assistance for these States.

The Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces of the North East Division under which assistance was given in kind, as well as the items for police modernization included under the SRE Scheme of the Department of Jammu & Kashmir have also been merged with the MPF Scheme from 2003-04.

New Terrorist outfit M.D.F.

847. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the new terrorist outfit 'Muslim Defence Force' which is active in the country especially in the States of Mahrashtra and Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that recent bomb blasts in Mumbai are the outcome of this organization; and

(d) if so, the measures taken by Government to contain the activities of M.D.F.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) to (c) The Government is aware of the activities of the agents provocateurs using the banner of Muslim Defence Force. Some of these elements have been noticed to be involved in terrorists